

Appl. No. 08/994,878  
Preliminary Amendment

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NOV 11 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 08/994,878  
Applicant(s) : Michael A. Epstein  
Filed : 19 December 1997  
TC/A.U. : 2131  
Examiner : Hosuk Song  
Atty. Docket : PHA 23-313

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR  
TRANSMISSION**

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[X] transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent  
and Trademark Office at 703-872-9306

On: 11 November 2004

By: 

Title: **ADMINISTRATION AND UTILIZATION OF PRIVATE KEYS IN A  
NETWORKED ENVIRONMENT**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Decision on Appeal dated 24 September 2004, please amend the  
above referenced application as follows and/or reconsider the application in light of the  
following remarks.

**This paper includes (each beginning on a separate sheet):**

- 1. Amendments to and/or listing of the claims; and**
- 2. Remarks / Discussion of issues.**

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PHA 23,313 RCE Preliminary Amendment

Atty. Docket No. PHA 23-313